THE MISSIONARY REPORT AND MINUTES

OF THE

# TENTH SESSION

OF

# The Louisiana Annual Conference,

OF THE

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,

HELD IN BASTROP, LA.,

**Wednesday, December 12th, 1855.**

BISHOP H. H. KAVANAUGH, PRESIDING.

NEW ORLEANS:
TRUE DELTA STEAM JOB PRESS, 103 ST. CHARLES STREET.

1856.

## PREFACE.

"*Resolved*, That the Publishing Committee of the New Orleans Christian Advocate be appointed a Committee to publish the Minutes." In accordance with this resolution of the Louisiana Conference, we respectfully present this as the result of our labors.

J. C. KEENER.
J. B. WALKER.
L. PARKER.

# MISSIONS.

## CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE 1.—This Society shall be called the Missionary Society of the Louisiana Conference, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, South.

ARTICLE 2.—The object of this Society shall be to assist the Parent Society in extending Missionary operations in the United States and elsewhere.

ARTICLE 3.—The payment of ONE DOLLAR ANNUALLY shall constitute any person a member of the Society, and TEN DOLLARS AT ANY ONE TIME shall secure life-membership.

ARTICLE 4.—The Society shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Directors, whose term of service shall be during the pleasure of the Society, and who shall constitute a Board for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE 5.—The Board shall meet annually at such place as may be appointed for the annual Conference, on the afternoon of the first day of its session:

To confer with the Missionaries employed the previous year within the Conference territory, securing from each of them a WRITTEN REPORT of the *state* and *prospects* of his mission, and of the *amounts collected* by him for Missions, with the *name* of *each contributor*, to be embodied in the Annual Report of the Society:

To ascertain the Missions proper to be sustained and the number of Missionaries to be employed in the Conference District, to be presented to the Bishop in writing:

To make the necesary arrangements for holding the annual meeting of the Society at some time during the session of the Conference: and

To appoint a committee to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, and endorse the report of the Secretary before it is read to the Society.

ARTICLE 6.—At all meetings of the Board of Managers three members shall be necessary to form a quorum.

ARTICLE 7.—The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and Board, unless providentially absent, when the Vice President shall preside, or in his absence a chairman chosen by nomination without debate.

ARTICLE 8.—The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Society and Board, unless providentially hindered, when it shall be his duty to transmit the records to the place of meeting. He shall keep a journal of their proceedings, and prepare the Annual Report.

ARTICLE 9.—The Treasurer shall receive and hold all amounts collected for Missionary purposes in all the stations, circuits and missions throughout the Conference during the year, forwarding them to the General Treasury; and shall publish a report of the same in such way as the Board shall direct.

ARTICLE 10.—The minutes of each meeting of the Society shall be signed by the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE 11.—This Constitution shall not be altered but by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

At a meeting of the Society in Shreveport Dec. 27, 1849, it was resolved unanimously "that the whole system of Missionary operations in this Conference be made to conform to the following plan, as written out for us by Bishop Capers—to wit:

1. The Missionary Committe of the Conference shall estimate the whole amount which is necessary for the Preacher appointed to any mission drawing for support upon the funds of the General Missionary Society.

2. The sum thus estimated shall be drawn for upon the General Treasurer in Quarterly instalments, payable in advance of each Quarter.

3. The above being the whole amount which any Missionary shall be at liberty to apply to himself; the friends of the mission paying to him their contributions, he will pay them over to the Conference Missionary Society, or to the Treasurer of the General Missionary Society, as may be convenient, without delay.

4. The missionary being thus provided for out of the Missionary Treasury, will be expected and required to use his best endeavors to obtain as much as he prudently can for the Society.

5. At each Conference a Committee of Publication shall be appointed to prepare the Minutes of the Conference for Publication, and in this will be included the Missionary Reports; and especially every single cent which may have been contributed during the year by any person for the support of missions, which shall be sent to every one of our friends, especially to such as have contributed, whether the amount be $100 or one cent.

**Officers of the Louisiana Conference Missionary Society,**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rev. JOEL SAUNDERS, | President. | Rev. LEWIS A. REED, | Director. |
| " R. RANDLE, | Vice Presid't. | " J. M. HOFER, | " |
| " J. C. KEENER, | Secretary. | " PHILO M. GOODWYN, | " |
| " H. N. McTYEIRE, | Treasurer. | " STEPHEN J. DAVIES, | " |

**Annual Report of the Secretary of the Missionary Society.**

It becomes the number and state of the Foreign Missions of our church to exhort rather than *report.*

Among the incitements to our duty, the Apostle cites the example of others. Others—the surpassing liberality of certain brethren who gave, not of their abundance, but out of a poverty which was of more than common depth. They gave, says the apostle, " to their power," and " beyond their power " they were " *willing.*" He was a witness of the noble fact and " bare record " of it after a very solemn manner, that they were spontaneous in their benificence, not waiting to to be exhorted. They reversed the usual course of a duty-drudge, and prayed the apostle, with much entreaty, to receive their contribution for the saints. Yet how deep must that poverty have been which could stagger one who always seemed to have a collection on hand for the poor at Jerusalem !

The godly people of the first century were not all on this wise ; some needed a yet higher incentive than this example of the Churches of Macedonia. The apostle pointed to it in the voluntary impoverishment of their Lord and Master. He that was rich became poor, that through his poverty we all might be rich.

Promises, intentions to do good, and subscription papers, generally, were in those days, as in these, a warning, an unsubstantial thing—some had been " forward a year ago," " now, therefore," says the mindful Paul, " perform the doing of it ;" that as there was a readiness to will, so let there be a " performance also out of that which ye have." He reminded them of the *distribution* of the manna. " He that had gathered much had nothing over, and he that had gathered little had no lack," was a plain fact with a good reason, and not a mere wonder, because the one gave to the other.

Besides the good which flowed to oneself in return for giving, the apostle points to other high results. That by these pious gifts many heart-altars were kindled where incense of thanks ascends to God, the

giver of all good; that the heathen are convinced of the divine character of a religion that moves to such deeds of charity; that they pray for their benefactors and long after them for the grace that is in them. So that a man may kindle and maintain many altars in distant lands, and many glowing hearts besides his own may be fed with the daily offerings of his hand. He may call around him a thousand prayers for his welfare, of purest love, from those who never heard his name.

Motives so apostolic in their conception and divine in their origin, must move the charitable and may move the selfish. To be loved, to be prayed for, to enkindle a flame that shall burn to Heaven, are noble ends it might well move an angel to gain at some cost

How many of these tributary altars hast thou, O, Methodist? In China, in India, in Polynesia, in South America, in Africa, how many pure offerings are made at thy cost? How many and how vast are the regions where there are no evidences of thy love to God or thy love to man! where myriads of human breasts are, upon which never yet glowed the coals of christain devotion! How long shall those gloomy regions continue to be a witness to the blackness of thy ingratitude to God, and to the coldness of thy love for man! What mean thy slow motions of relief for the imprisoned multitudes of pagan realms; or thine, O, Minister of God, when the spirit of the Lord is upon thee, because he hath annointed thee to preach glad tidings to the meek, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord! The war cry of the missionary is as the sound of the archangel's trump, which awakes the dead. Ye ministers of His, go forth; plant your feet upon every land; "*wherever a Greek sets his foot, let him kindle a fire.*"

Bro. Cunningham writes encouragingly from China: "I do think our way of working, as Methodists, is the very thing for the Chinese. It will arouse them up, and then our standard of personal experience requires such a thorough change that no room is left for the old leaven—they must become new creatures—the very thing they need."

One Chinese boy, ordered a year ago, has not come to hand. Doctor Taylor has written especially to secure one for us.

We congratulate our General Missionary Secretary upon the steady increase of missionary receipts from $68,000 in 1844 to $164,000 of the present year, upon the 170 Missions among our people of color, the 30 Missions among the Indians and the 6 Missions among the Chinese. "But what are they among so many!"

The now open idolatry of the Roman Church calls for the strenuous efforts of all true ministers to carry the word of God to a people whom she teaches to worship Mary, "the creature," rather than Chirst, the Lord. In Southern Louisiana, Romanism is building churches, nunneries and schools, and preaches to a vast population in the French tongue. A missionary movement in the direction of this population should have been made by the members of our conference long since. Lawyers and merchants, many of them, have mastered the difficulties of the French language, while the higher incentives which are supposed to be ever present to the Methodist ministry, have failed as yet to produce a single preacher in the French tongue. Men should be selected and money appropriated for this work.

A good Providence has raised up to the Germans, ministers from among themselves. Three German itinerants have been laboring in the city, during the last year, besides two German local preachers. The German Missions were never in a more prosperous condition; though during the year the First Mission lost 20 per cent. of its membership with yellow fever. Lots have been recently bought for a Fifth Mission Chapel. The unexpected gathering of more than 100 German children in the Beer Garden Sabbath School in the western part of the Third District called loudly for us to enter that ripe field.

The First Mission is suffering for want of a larger church. A lot is bought and paid for, and several thousand dollars collected for this purpose; yet, at least $4,000 additional must be obtained before the Trustees of the Mission can venture to build such a brick church as has been contemplated these several years past, and such as becomes the most important and the oldest German Mission of the Methodist Church, South. Help! help!! help!!! What man is there among all the friends of German Methodism who will give this much to aid this great mission of love?

It is stated upon good authority that the number of colored members in the Church, South, exceeds that of the entire membership of all the Protestant Missions in the world. What an enterprise is this comhave taken for the African has, to a great extent, cut us off from the sympathy of the Christian Church throughout the world; and it bemitted to our care! The position we, of the Methodist Church, South, hooves us to make good this position in the sight of God, of angels, of men, of churches, and to our own consciences, by presenting before the

throne of His glory multitudes of the souls of these benighted ones abandoned to our care, as the seals of our ministry. Already Louisiana promises to be one vast plantation. Let us—we must gird ourselves for this Heaven-born enterprise of supplying the pure gospel to the slaves. The great question is, How can the greatest number be preached to? The building roadside chapels is as yet the best solution of it. In some cases planters build so as to accomodate adjoining plantations, and by this means the preacher addresses three hundred or more slaves, instead of one hundred or less. Economy of this kind is absolutely essential where the labor of the missionary is so much needed and demanded.

On the Lafourche and Bayou Black Mission-work several chapels are in process of erection upon a plan which enables the slave, as his master, to make an offering towards building a house of God. Instead of money, the "hands" subscribe labor. Timber is plenty; many of the servants are carpenters. Upon many of the plantations are saw mills. Here is much material; what hindereth that we should build a church on every tenth plantation! Let us maintain our policy steadily. Time and dilligence are required to effect substantial good, especially in this department of labor. Let us continue to ask for buildings adapted to the worship of God, and set apart; to urge, whenever practicable, the preaching to blacks in the presence of their masters, their overseers and the neighbors generally.

There are in the bounds of the Conference nine Missions to the slaves, including 2,826 members and 730 children under catechetical instruction.

# FORM OF CONSTITUTION
FOR
# "JUVENILE MISSIONARY SOCIETIES."

ARTICLE 1.—This Association shall be called the JUVENILE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

ARTICLE 2.—This Society shall be auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

ARTICLE 3.—The object of this Society shall be the raising of funds for the purpose of educating Chinese youth in this country, and such other objects as the Society shall direct.

ARTICLE 4.—The Officers shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Board of Managers.

ARTICLE 5.—All officers shall be elected for a term of and no person who is not a member of the Sabbath School, and also of this Society, shall be eligible to any office.

ARTICLE 6.—It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society; and in the absence of the President, this duty shall devolve upon the Vice President.

ARTICLE 7.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the proceeding of each meeting of the Society; to keep an alphabetical list of all the members; to call the roll at each meeting, and note those absent, and the amounts severally paid in by those present; to enter upon the Minute Book the Treasurer's Report and such other reports as may be directed by the Society.

ARTICLE 8.—The Treasurer shall receive and keep all the funds of the Society, and report the amount on hand and receipts at each regular meeting; and the names of all in arrears.

ARTICLE 9.—The Board of Managers shall consist of the Superintendent of the Sabbath School, one male and one female teacher, five boys and five girls. Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. It shall be the duty of the Board to attend to all matters of business during the interval of the regular meetings, for which purpose the Superintendent may call them together.

ARTICLE 10.—No money shall be paid out of the Treasurp, except by order of the Society or the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE 11.—Any person desiring to become a member of this Society may do so by paying *ten cents* as initiation fee, and five cents monthly thereafter.

ARTICLE 12.—This Society shall hold its regular meetings on the first Sabbath of every month; fifteen shall constitute a quorum. The order of proceedings shall be as follows:

1. Reading Minutes of preceeding meeting.
2. Receiving new members.
3. Calling Roll and receiving Monthly Dues.
4. Unfinished business.
5. Report of Treasurer.
6. Report of Committees.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Adjournment.

ARTICLE 13.—At the last regular meeting of the financial year, the Society shall determine the special disposition of the funds in hand.

ARTICLE 14.—This Society shall hold its Anniversary at such time and place as the Board of Managers shall direct.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

OF THE

# LOUISIANA CONFERENCE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

H. N. McTYEIRE, Treasurer,

IN ACCOUNT WITH LOUISIANA CONFERENCE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

| 1855. | NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT. | | Dr. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carondelet street | $305 60 | | |
| " " S. S. M. S | 156 60— | $462 20 | |
| Felicity street | 243 00 | | |
| " " S. S. M. S | 150 00— | 393 00 | |
| Moreau street | 120 00 | | |
| " " S. S. M. S | 55 00— | 175 00 | |
| First German Church | 90 05 | | |
| " " " S. S. M. S | 34 95— | 125 00 | |
| Second German Church | 54 75 | | |
| " " " S .S. M. S | 25 25— | 80 00 | |
| Third German Church | | 28 65 | |
| Four th " " | 18 55 | | |
| " " " S. S. M. S | 11 80— | 30 35 | |
| New Orleans Circuit | | 2 20 | |
| Thibodaux | | 30 00 | |
| Donaldsonville and Bayou Black | | 298 10 | |
| Wesley, Winans and Soule Chapels | | 380 25— | $2004 75 |
| | OPELOUSAS DISTRICT. | | |
| Franklin and Pattersonville, ($100 to constitute L. Ms. Nancy Tarkington, J. B. Murphy, Harriet T. Johnson, Miss Maria L. Barnet and Elizabeth Gordy,) | $170 50 | | |
| Opelousas and Chicot | | 30 00 | |
| New Iberia | | 130 00 | |
| Alexandria (from colored people,) | | 35 40 | |
| Rapides Colored Mission | | 55 00 | |
| North Rapides | | 2 00— | $422 90 |
| | SHREVEPORT DISTRICT. | | |
| Shreveport | | $ 00 00 | |
| Caddo Circuit | | 75 25 | |
| Natchitoches | | 00 00 | |
| North Bossier | | 66 50 | |
| Mansfield and Big Cane | $ 47 80 | | |
| Pleasant Hill | $126 55— | $174 35— | $316 10 |

OUACHITA DISTRICT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Minden Circuit | $23 85 | |
| Homer " | 84 60 | |
| Farmersville | 2 50 | |
| Munroe Colored Mission | 70 78 | |
| Bastrop Circuit | 59 10 | |
| Jackson " | 21 00 | |
| Dugdemona Colored Mission | 63 50 | $325 33 |

LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lake Providence | $140 00 | |
| Monticello Circuit | 17 75 | |
| Waterproof and St. Joseph's Mission | 204 00 | |
| Columbia Circuit | 1 00 | $362 75 |

OTHER SOURCES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dec. 12.—Annual Contribution of Members | $50 00 | |
| " Mrs. R. Randle | 5 00 | |
| " Master Thomas Randle | 1 00 | |
| " " Robt. Randle | 1 00 | |
| " " Henry C. Wright | 50 | |
| " Miss Laura Randle | 1 00 | |
| " Miss Fanny Louisa Trippett | 1 00 | |
| " Cash—Bastrop, La | 1 00 | |
| " E. C. Hurlong | 5 00 | |
| May 4.—Rev. R. Randle, P. E. Shreveport District | 10 00 | |
| Sept. 10.—"F." of Thibodaux, for German Beer Garden Church | 10 00 | $85 50 |

ANNIVERSARY COLLECTIONS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Dec. 16.—To constitute Rev. L. Parker L. M., by Miss Jennie Brigham | $20 00 |
| " To constitute Mrs. R. B. Todd L. M., by Revs. N. A. Cravens, $10; J. B. Walker, 5; J. C. Keener, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Bishop Kavanaugh L. M., by E. K. W. Ross, $5; Rev. R. Trippett, $5; Mitchell, 5; Rev. S. J. Graves, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Miss —— Ross L. M., by her father | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Mrs. E. S. Stirling L. M., by her husband | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Mrs. Sparks L. M., Revs. B. C. Steagall, $10; J. Sanders, $5; S. Hawes, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Mrs. Prather L. M., by Rev. Moses Davis | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Mrs. Sarah Mathews L. M., by Rev. J. L. Wright, $5; R. B. Todd, $5; W. McFee, $5; Dr. Collier, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute P. E. Hamitt L. M | 20 00 |
| " To constitute H. C. Bartlett, L. M., by his four children | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Rev. P. M. Goodwyn L. M., by Mrs. F. Noble, $5; Mrs. L. M. Norwood, $5; Mrs. J. L. Wright, $5; cash, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Col. Todd, L. M., by Mrs. Johnson, $10; Rev. J. B. Walker, $5; W. L. McMurtree, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitue Mrs. J. Pauly L. M., by cash, $10; McMurtree, $5; Rev. S. Hawes, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Rev. J. Sanders L. M., by Miss Bartlett, $5; cash, $5; J. H. Brigham, $5; J. T. Stirling, $5 | 20 00 |
| " To constitute Miss Ann Buford L. M., by Mrs. Julia Buford | 20 00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dec. 16.—To constitute Miss Ann R. Hendrick L. M., by Rev. L. A. Reed, $5; Rev. Dr. Fontaine, $5; Rev. Dr. New, $5; cash, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. Parsons L. M., by Rev. A. E. Goodwyn, $10; Mr. Compton, $5; J. T. Stirling, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. Caldwell L. M., by Rev. S. J. Davies, $10; Rev. Z. Thompson, $10 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Rev. J. B. Walker L. M., by Messrs. McMurtry, $5; H. Brigham, $5; Thomason, $5; Mitchell, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. Wiseman L. M., by Rev. W. A. Smyth, $5; J. Vaughn $5; J. T. Stirling, $5; W. L. Knox, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute the mother of Rev. J. Pauly L. M., by Dr. Collier, $10; Mrs. Pouncy, $5; J. T. Stirling, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Miss Jennie Brigham L. M., by Rev. J. B. Walker, $5; T. F. Johnson, $5; F. White, $5; Rev. A. E. Goodwyn, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. D. Watkins, L. M., by Mrs. Hamilton, $10; Mrs. Cook, $5; Mrs. E. Randle, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Miss Frances Hall L. M., by Revs. C. J. Halberg, $10; J. H. Waters, $10 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitue Rev. N. A. Cravens, L. M. by Mrs. R. B. Todd, | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. Dr. Hilliard L. M., by her husband | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. Kavanaugh L. M., by Rev. R. J. Harp | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Mrs. Jane Weeks L. M., by Bp. Kavanaugh, $5; Revs. L. Parker, $10; J. A. Ivey, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " To constitute Rev. J. A. Ivey L. M., by J. M. Thomason, $5; Mrs. Knox, $10; Mrs. Weeks, $5 | 20 00 | |
| " Contributions towards various L. Ms. not completed | 15 00 | |
| | | $595 00 |
| " One Attakapas pony—sold for | | 20 00 |

BALES OF COTTON.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| " S. Handy, one bale cotton, valued at | 30 00 | |
| " Mrs. Sarah D. Brigham, one bale | 30 00 | |
| " Henry Brigham, one bale | 30 00 | |
| " Rev. H. B. Kemp, one bale. (to weigh over 500 lbs., and constitute Misses Lizzie Douglas and Josephine E. Caldwell L. Ms) | 40 00 | |
| " W. A. Rhymes, one bale | 30 00 | |
| " Rev. R. Randle, one bale | 30 00 | |
| " E. K. W. Ross, one bale | 30 00 | $220 00 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| From Districts | $3431 83 | |
| From other sources | 85 50 | |
| From Anniversary at Bastrop | 835 00 | |
| Grand Total | | $4352 33 |

1855. Cr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| By amount applied to Rapides Colored Mission | $ 55 00 | |
| " " North Bosier Colored Mission | 65 00 | |
| " " Dugdemona " " | 63 00 | |
| " " St. Joseph's " " | 204 00 | 387 00 |
| By amount contributed by "F." for German Church | 10 00 | |
| " " by Carondelet St. Ch. German Church. | 362 00 | |
| " " by Felicity Street Church | 243 00 | 615 00 |
| Dec. 12.—By 4th dft. of Bishop Andrew in favor J. Sanders, P. E. for Missions in Ouachita District | 341 25 | |
| " By 1st & 2d dfts of Bishop Kavanaugh in favor N. A. Cravens, P. E. Lake Providence District | 100 00 | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. 12—1st dft. Bishop Kavanaugh, in favor P. M. Goodwyn, P. E. Opelousas District | 66 25 | | |
| " 1st dft. Bishop Kavanaugh in favor of J. Sanders, P. E. Ouchita District | 238 50 | —746 00 | |
| March 4.—To expense of 2000 Copies of Report & Minutes, | | 115 00 | |
| " Less by amount of 7 bales cotton on hand, valued, | 220 00 | | |
| " Less by amount in hands of Felicity Street Sabbath School, for educating a Chinese boy | 150 00 | —370 00 | |
| | | 2233 00 | |
| Dec. 31.—Paid to Assistant Treasurer, balance | | 2119 33 | |
| | | $4352 33 | |

# CONFERENCE MISSIONARY APPORTIONMENTS.

## FOR 1856.

### NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carondelet St., | 300 00 | N. O. Circuit | 85 00 |
| Felicity St., | 300 00 | Plaquemine & Pt. Coupee | 100 00 |
| Moreau St., | 100 00 | Thibodeau | 50 00 |
| 1st German Mission | 100 00 | B. Black & Lafourche Circuit and Mission | 700 00 |
| 2d German Mission | 100 00 | | |
| 3d German Mission | 50 00 | Baton Rouge | 100 00 |
| 4th German Mission | 100 00 | Wesley, Soule & Winans | 350 00 |

### OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Franklin & Pattersonville | 150 00 | North Rapides Circuit | 50 00 |
| New Iberia Circuit | 100 00 | Harrisonburg | 50 00 |
| Opelousas | 50 00 | Columbia | 50 00 |
| Chicot | 50 00 | North Rapides C'ld Miss. | 250 00 |
| Alexandria | 100 00 | | |

### SHREVEPORT DISTRICT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Shreveport, | 100 00 | Natchitoches Circuit | 50 00 |
| Caddo Circuit, | 200 00 | North Bossier Circuit, | 50 00 |
| Mansfield Circuit, | 200 00 | | |

### OUACHITA DISTRICT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Minden Circuit | 150 00 | Sparta | 50 00 |
| Homer Circuit | 150 00 | Castor | 50 00 |
| Jackson Circuit | 50 00 | Bastrop & Mission | 400 00 |
| Farmerville | 50 00 | Dugdemonia Circuit | 50 00 |
| Monroe & Trenton | 50 00 | Red River Circuit | 150 00 |
| Monroe Colored Mission | 400 00 | | |

### LAKE PROVIDENCE.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lake Providence Circuit, | 300 00 | Waterproof & St Joseph, | 300 00 |
| Monticello Circuit, | 50 00 | Trinity Circuit, | 50 00 |
| Bœuff Prairie Circuit, | 50 00 | Bœuff River, | 50 00 |

# MINUTES.

QUESTION 1.—What Preachers are ADMITTED ON TRIAL?

ANSWER.—Jesse Fulton, James T. Fontaine, Allen W. Harper, Thos. H. McLenden, Jack. S. Hewitt, Dabney P. Cullen, W. S. McGaughey, S. F. Scurlock, Robert A. New; *re-admitted*, B. C. Stegall.

Q. 2.—Who REMAIN ON TRIAL.

A.—Fisher T. Rawson, Jeptha Landrum, Charles W. Hodge.

Q. 2.—Who are ADMITTED INTO FULL CONNECTION?

A.—Gerhard Busmann, Uriah Riley, Bedford J. Hamilton.

Q. 5.—Who are elected DEACONS this year?

A.—G. Busmann, Uriah Riley; *Local*, John Williams, A. C. Hulong.

Q. 5.—Who are elected DEACONS OF ONE YEAR?

A.—W. A. Manly, B. F. Alexander, Seaborn J. Graves.

Q. 6.—Who have been elected ELDERS this year?

A.—*Local* William Keller, Reddick, P. Burton, Uriah Whatley-Robert Armstead.

Q. 7.—Who have LOCATED this year?

A.—H. A. Sugg, Wm. E. Dotey, Z. Thompson.

Q. 8.—Who are the Superanuated Preachers?

A.—W. Stevenson, David Kinnear, Thomas Samford.

Q. 9.—Are all the Preachers blameless?

A.—They were examined one by one, and their characters were passed by the Conference.

Q. 10.—Who have DIED this year?

A.—The Committee on MEMOIRS presented the following:

## REPORT.

THOMAS FOSTER.—Thomas H. Foster was born in the year 1824, in the County of Monroe, State of Alabama. Blest with pious parental instruction and example, he early became the subject of converting grace, remember his Creater in the days of his youth. He was favored with considerable scholastic advantages, being a graduate of Pennsylvania University, under President Bascom.

Soon after his graduation he became a member of the Alabama Annual Conference at the session held at Montgomery, in the year 1848. Thus consecrating his youth, his intellect and scholarship, to the glory of God, and the highest good of man. Six years of his itinerant life and labors were spent with great acceptability and usefulness in the Alabama Annual Connference.

At the close of the year 1854, Bishop Andrew, whose position enabled him to survey the field, and comprehend the wants of places, and the fitness of men, transfered him to the Louisana Annual Conference, and stationed him the at Capital of the State.

Brother Foster was a man of vigorous and refined mental structure; amiable and effective in address, sincere, zealous and studious, his coming among us was hailed with much satisfaction, and inspired the liveliest hopes of enlarged usefulness; but alas, for the futility of human hopes; a little more than seven short months closed his career of usefulness and hope as a member of our Conference.

The yellow fever, that dread "pestilence that walketh in darkness, and wasteth at noonday," that has, during the past year cut down so many valuable men in the midst of their days and usefulness, visited Baton Bouge, the scene of Brother Foster's labors. Though unacclimated, he remained faithfully at his post, visiting the sick and consoling the bereaved. While thus engaged in his arduous and perilous work, he was seized with the fatal malady, and though hale and strong, in four brief days fell a victim to its destroying power. He died on the 3d of September last, at the house of his friend, and ours, the Hon. J. M. Elam, surrounded and cheered by all the consolation that skill, kindness and love could administer.

One who witnessed the closing scene thus writes: He said, "I am not afraid to die; Jesus is with me, to sustain and comfort me." Calmly and resignedly he took leave of his beloved companion and sweet infant boy. Words of exhortation and comfort were addressed to all about him. Prayers and praise employed his lips and tongue, almost to the last, and when these members failed to do their office, he still murmurad and mingled his praises, until the trembling notes were lost, and changed for the triumphant song of the "Saints in light."

Thus God takes away his workmen, but carries on his work, and though the Church has lost a minister, Heaven has gained an Angel,

and a blessed child of light. It becomes us to say, "it is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth Him good. J. B. WALKER,
Committee.

Wm. H. Turnley.—Wm. H. Turnley was born in East Tennesse, in the year 1799. He moved to Alabama in 1825, and was at that time an exhorter in the Methodist E. Church. He was admitted on trial to the traveling connection, by the Mississippi Conference, December 14, 1826, and in connection with Benjamin Dulany, was appointed to Cedar creek, in the Alabama District. He continued to travel until 1838, when he became local, and remained so until a few years ago, when he was re-admitted by the Louisiana Conference. For several years past he held a superannuated relation, preaching as much as possible, and attending to the duties of the ministry, when his health permitted. He died August 23, 1855, after a protracted illness, in the 56th year of his age. He was insensible for several days previous to his death, and was not permitted to leave his family and friends the consolations of a death-bed testimony. Perhaps our better assurance is in his life—a life of Christian and ministerial fidelity. He rests from his labors, and has entered into the joy of his Lord. Brother Turnley was a man of good ability, but without the advantages of early scholastic training. He had, however, stored his mind with useful knowledge, and was a practical and efficient preacher. He was twice married, and leaves a widow and children to mourn his loss.

Q. 11. What are the numbers in Society?

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.

| | WHITE. | | COLORED. | | LOCAL PREACH. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Memb. | Prob. | Memb. | Prob. | White. | Colored. |
| Carondelet Street Church | 333 | 16 | | | 4 | |
| Felicity Street Church | 170 | 21 | | | 3 | |
| Moreau Street Church | 95 | 79 | | | | |
| Wesley, Soule & Winans Chapels | | | 1105 | 163 | | 3 |
| First German Mission | 55 | 07 | | | 1 | |
| Second " " | 40 | 23 | | | 1 | |
| Third " " | 10 | 2 | | | | |
| Fourth " " | 15 | 10 | | | 3 | |
| New Orleans Circuit | 70 | | | | | |
| Baton Rouge | 122 | 4 | 96 | 19 | 2 | |
| Thibodeaux and Napoleonville | 46 | 7 | 82 | 2 | 1 | |
| Plaquemine and Pointe Coupée | 30 | 10 | 45 | | | |
| Donaldsonville and Bayou Black Circuit and Mission | 39 | 1 | 671 | 3 | | |
| Total | 1025 | 180 | 1999 | 197 | 15 | 3 |

## OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.

| | WHITE. | | COLORED. | | LOCAL PREACH. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Memb. | Prob. | Memb. | Prob. | White. | Colored. |
| Opelousas and Chicot | 242 | 21 | 26 | 43 | 1 | |
| St. Landry Colored Mission | | | 162 | | | |
| Franklin and Pattersonville | 267 | | 450 | | 2 | |
| New Iberia Circuit | 204 | 49 | 90 | 62 | 3 | |
| Alexandria | 44 | 6 | 75 | 30 | | |
| N. Rapides Circuit and Mission | 73 | 33 | 85 | 97 | | |
| Total | 830 | 108 | 888 | 232 | 6 | |

## SHREVEPORT DISTRICT.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shreveport | 39 | | 20 | | | |
| Caddo Circuit | 158 | 83 | 40 | | 5 | |
| Mansfield | 210 | 29 | 198 | 42 | 4 | |
| Natchitoches Circuit | 150 | 80 | | 16 | 6 | |
| North Bossier | 119 | 66 | 48 | 20 | 1 | |
| Bossier Mission | | | | 48 | | |
| Total | 676 | 256 | 306 | 126 | 16 | |

## OUACHITA DISTRICT.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Homer Circuit | 654 | | 90 | | 11 | |
| Jackson Circuit | 496 | 98 | 100 | | 6 | |
| Farmerville Circuit | 320 | 37 | 117 | | 3 | |
| Bastrop Circuit and Mission | 290 | | 175 | 20 | | 2 |
| Castor Circuit | 205 | 147 | | | 7 | |
| Red River Circuit | 243 | 15 | 152 | | 3 | 1 |
| Monroe and Trenton | 14 | | | | 1 | |
| Minden Circuit | 197 | 20 | 80 | 30 | 3 | 1 |
| Dugdemona | 228 | 39 | | | 5 | |
| Total | 2647 | 356 | 714 | 50 | 39 | 4 |

## LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lake Providence | 132 | 13 | 40 | | 3 | |
| Carrol Mission | | | 35 | | | |
| Monticello Circuit | 113 | 45 | 70 | 15 | 3 | |
| Bœuff Prairie Circuit | 180 | 63 | 50 | 7 | 6 | |
| Waterproof & St. Joseph Circuit and Mission | 84 | 24 | 50 | 75 | 3 | |
| Trinity Circuit | 73 | 40 | 10 | 10 | | |
| Columbia Circuit | 162 | 53 | 14 | | 2 | |
| Richmond and Madison | 68 | | 343 | | | |
| Bœuff River | 16 | 82 | | | | |
| Total | 858 | 319 | 572 | 107 | 17 | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Grand Total this year | 6036 | 1219 | 4479 | 702 | 93 | 7 |
| and Indians | 17 | | | | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Increase in White Membership this year | 954 |
| Increase in Local Preachers | 16 |
| Decrease in Colored Membership | 50 |

## MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

Q. 12. What amounts are necessary to meet the CLAIMS of the Superanuated Preachers and the Widows and Orphans of Preachers, and to make up the deficiencies of those Preachers who have not obtained Disciplinary allowance?

A.—For Superannuates - - - $940 00
" Widows and Orphans - - 863 00——$1803 00

Q. 13. What amount of WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PER CENT. has been collected?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| N. O. District | $30 00 | Second German Mission | 25 00 |
| Carondelet Street | 152 80 | Third " " | 4 80 |
| Felicity Street | 53 00 | Fourth " " | 22 50 |
| Moreau Street | 51 50 | New Orleans Circuit | 30 20 |
| Wesley, Soule & Winans | 17 50 | Plaquemine & Point Coupée | 20 00 |
| First German Mission | 35 00 | Donaldsonville & Bayou Black | 45 00 |
| Opelousas District | 32 95 | Farmersville | 15 85 |
| Franklin and Pattersonville | 49 50 | Castor | 13 70 |
| New Iberia | 12 50 | Bastrop | 22 05 |
| Opelousas and Chicot | 25 00 | Bastrop Colored Mission | 25 00 |
| Alexandria | 17 45 | Jackson | 4 65 |
| N. Rapides Colored Mission | 16 05 | Red River | 12 80 |
| Shreveport District | 31 00 | Lake Providence District | 17 65 |
| Shreveport | 10 00 | Lake Providence | 75 00 |
| Caddo | 15 00 | Monticello | 27 50 |
| Mansfield | 37 00 | Bœuff Prairie | 16 75 |
| Natchitoches | 6 94 | Waterproof | 89 00 |
| North Bossier | 31 10 | Columbia | 11 25 |
| Ouachita District | 17 50 | Trinity | 20 37 |
| Minden | 17 25 | | |

Q. 14. How has the foregoing sum been applied?

TO SUPERANNUATES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| William Stevenson | $206 00 | | |
| David Kinner | 206 00 | | |
| Thomas Samford | 208 00 | $620 00 | |

TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Widow of Brother Page | $103 00 | | |
| Widow and orphans of Brother Guice | 140 00 | | |
| Widow and orphans of Brother Turnly | 210 95 | | |
| Widow and orphans of Bro. Foster, (last quarter) | 30 20 | | |
| Brother Bremer's orphans | 55 20 | | |
| " Trostrick's orphans | 27 60 | | |
| " Benton's orphans | 27 60 | $594 55 | $1,214 55 |
| ALSO—Private contribution to widow of Bro. Turnly | $25 00 | | |
| Private contribution to orphan of Bro. Benton | 10 00 | | |
| Colected in Conference for " " " | 37 70 | | |
| Private contribution to Wm. Stevenson | 5 00 | $77 70 | |

NOTE.—This dividend is SIXTY-NINE PER CENT. of the claim according to the new allowence; which would have been over one hundred per cent. of the old allowance.

## ORPHAN'S AND WIDOW'S PER CENT.

The members of the Louisana Conference acknowledge their past neglect in the support of their worn out brethren and the widows and orphans of those who have died in the work. Therefore, looking to the favor of the Lord and the hearts of the Methodist people,

*Resolved*, That at this session the Conference will estimate for the year following what amonnt will be needed to provide for the support of Superannuates, Widows and Orphans, and what per centage that amount is of the sum of the entire salaries of the members of the Conference.

*Resolved*, That the Conference will at its next session collect of each preacher such a per cent. upon his entire *receipts* for the year.

*Resolved*, That the Stewards of circuits and stations are hereby requested to add such a per cent. to the salary of each preacher and provide for it accordingly.

*Resolved*, That those works which may be supplied be requested to collect in the same manner the same per centage upon the whole amount of their actual receipts, and send up to the next session of the Conference.

*Resolved*, That the Conference declare THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PER CENT. FOR 1855 TO BE SIX PER CENT.

*Resolved*, That the Preachers who have failed to pay their Widows and Orphans per cent., be requested to send or bring up the amount to the next Conference.

*Resolved*, That those members of this Conference who may, at any time be appointed to institutions of learning or special agencies, be required to pay *the Widows and Orphans per cent.* upon their actual *receipts.*

*Resolved*, The Preachers, in making their reports of claims and receipts be required in case of deficiency, to make a pro rata division of the amount received between quarterage and table expenses, but at the same time that the Stewards of the Conference be instructed not to make any appropriation to make up the deficiency of any effective preacher until the claims of the worn out Preachers and Widows and Orphans have been met.

## TOTAL ALLOWANCE AND TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR 1855.

| | ALL. | REC. |
|---|---|---|
| New Orleans District, J. C. Keener | $1470 00 | $1070 00 |
| Carondelet, J. B. Walker | 2500 00 | 2500 00 |
| Felicity, L. Parker | 1000 00 | 1000 00 |
| Moreau, J. A. Ivy | 730 00 | 730 00 |
| Welsh, Soule and Winans, H. N. McTyeire | 700 00 | 350 00 |
| First German Mission, J. Pauley | 500 00 | 500 00 |
| Second " " J. M. Hofer | 700 00 | 700 00 |
| Third " " (Supplied) | 000 00 | 000 00 |
| Fourth " " G. Busman | 510 00 | 510 00 |
| New Orleans Circuit, (Suppled) | 000 00 | 000 00 |
| Donaldsonville and Bayou Black, L. A. Reed | 900 00 | 900 00 |
| Plaquemines, H. Avery | 400 00 | 400 00 |
| Opelousas District, P. A. Goodwyn | 800 00 | 658 00 |
| Franklin and Pattersonville, N. A. Cravens | 1075 00 | 989 00 |
| New Iberia, B. F. Alexander | 250 00 | 250 00 |
| Opelousas and Chicot, R. Trippett | 1000 00 | 500 00 |
| Alexandria, A. E. Goodwyn | 470 00 | 348 00 |
| North Rapides and " " Colored Mission, U. Riley | 600 00 | 321 00 |
| Shreveport District, R. Randle | 750 00 | 617 00 |
| Shreveport, E. M. Walker | 100 00 | 100 00 |
| Caddo Circuit, T. J. Lacy | 500 00 | 500 00 |
| Mansfield, H. A. Sugg | 930 00 | 838 00 |
| Natchitoches, J. Landrum | 150 00 | 131 96 |
| North Bossier, J. L. Wright | 422 00 | 422 00 |
| Ouachita District, J. Sanders | 795 00 | 350 00 |
| Minden, B. J. Hamilton | 600 00 | 345 00 |
| Farmersville, R. M. Crowson | 500 00 | 317 00 |
| Monroe and Trenton, Jepthat Hughes | 400 20 | 10 00 |
| Castor, C. W. Hodge | 600 00 | 274 00 |
| Bastrop, D. S. Watkins | 955 00 | 441 50 |
| " Colored Missions, G. W. Evans | 500 00 | 500 00 |
| Jackson, F. T. Rawson | 150 00 | 93 00 |
| " W. C. Moreland | 725 00 | 449 75 |
| Dugdamona, W. A. Manly | 500 00 | 500 00 |
| Red River, W. A. Smyth | 652 00 | 225 00 |
| Lake Providence District, Z. Thompson | 500 00 | 353 00 |
| Lake Irovidence, R. J. Harp | 1500 00 | 1500 00 |
| Monticello, C. J. Halburg | 700 00 | 550 00 |
| Boeuff Prairie, U. Whatley | 400 00 | 335 43 |
| " " E. W. Griswold | 100 00 | 28 00 |
| Waterproof, S. J. Davies | 1250 00 | 1250 00 |
| " Mission, E. W. Griswold | 204 00 | 204 00 |
| Columbia, S. J. Graves | 475 00 | 225 00 |
| Trinity, Moses Davis | 500 00 | 407 65 |

## EDUCATION.

Question 15. What is the action of the Conference on the cause of Education?

Answer 1. The Report of the Committee on Education was adopted as follows:

After having had the subject of Education under consideration, your Committee beg leave to report that they believe as much as ever in the importance of the Louisiana Conference sustaining all the educational interests that she possibly can. Education is on the increase in our land, and if we will not provide means for the education of the rising generation, both male and female, others will; and the loss will be to us not only the loss of those children whose parents are members of no particular church, but the loss in the children of Methodists, whom we have taught in our own Sunday Schools — they will be estranged from us, and their feelings will be with and their influence will be given to others. In this respect the Methodist Church South should put on her whole armor and display all her power. It is a very common saying that "knowledge is power;" and so it is. It is a "power," in whatever channel it is directed. If the channel is right, the power is good. but if it be wrong, knowledge is equally powerful for evil. This being the case, we should see well to it, that we give all the facilities within our reach for the right kind of education—to have it established upon the moral teachings of the Bible, that it may be a blessing to the educated and to all within the sphere of their influence. A more important truth was never uttered than the saying of Solomon: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." To effect this great object, the first step should be the inculcation of sound moral and religious instruction. And where, we would ask, should we seek for such training of the youthful mind as at the hands of those who have been brought to the knowledge of Christ, who have learned to contrast the fallacy of mere worldly wisdom and fashionable accomplishments with that which makes us acquainted with ourselves and with our own sinful nature? This your Committee conceives to be a matter of the first importance—one which is paramount to every other consideration, and the foundation of which can only be laid by those who properly estimate its value. We are happy to

state that our people are waking up on this subject, yet, we regret to say, they are only *partially* awakened. Something, it is true, has been done, but very little in comparison to what should be and must be done, if we expect to succeed in this matter. Schools and Colleges must be endowed, and to this effect, money must be raised, and with a liberality surpassing anything heretofore exhibited. Nor is all this lost to the donor—on the contrary, his liberality will be repaid many fold: not only in providing intellectual and moral culture for his offspring, but in the enhancement of the value of property in the neighborhoods where such institutions are established. Your Committee might expatiate at length on the many and great advantages to be derived from the effective establishment of these institutions of learning among us, but time and space forbid a more extended notice. We sincerely hope, however, that our members and the friends of this enterprise will assist in the work with such liberality as shall insure the establishment of these institutions upon a firm basis.

CENTENARY COLLEGE OF LOUISIANA.

We, as your Committee, regret that we have no report from this College, because one of the Visiting Committee was absent, and the other, Bro. Foster, having gone to his reward. Yet we are glad to say that, up to the last commencement, the College was in a flourishing condition, having, in all departments, about 200 students, twenty-two of whom graduated with honor. Its prosperity during the present session has been retarded by the long and late continuance of the yellow fever, in all the towns on the Mississippi river, and even in Jackson itself. Your Committee hope, however, that the fact of the yellow fever having visited the town of Jackson last fall, will not permanently injure the College, but that the young men will again throng its halls, and that it will be clothed with its former prosperity. The College has a corps of able Professors, and when the "Centre Building" shall be finished, which is now, we believe, in course of erection, it will present more inducements than any other college within the bounds of our State, as the place where the young men of Louisiana can receive a thorough education.

MANSFIELD FEMALE COLLEGE.

Your Committee received a report from the Visiting Committee of this College, which states that the examination was everything that

could be expected—thorough and satisfactory. The Board of Trustees corroborate the testimony, saying that "the examination in July last was not only such as to give general satisfaction, but exceeded our most sanguine expectations, though the public were predisposed to expect much from the known ability and reputation of the talented gentleman placed at the head of the School."

The last session closed with seventy-two scholars—the present opened on the 3d of October last with ninety. It now numbers one hundred and four, with daily increase, and it is expected that, by next October, there will be 150 or 200 scholars, by which time the Trustees expect that the College building will be completed. The building will cost $25,000, $18,000 of which the Trustees have in subscriptions and cash, leaving a balance, yet to be provided for of $7,000. For the raising of this sum, and also an endowment fund, they ask for a general and also a special agent. Your Committee therefore recommend the following resolution, to wit:

*Resolved*, That we recommend the Bishop to appoint the P. E. of the Shreveport District a special agent; and also another, a member of this Conference, a general agent, for the purpose of collecting funds for completing the buildings of Mansfield Female College, and for other purposes designated by the Trustees of said College.

HOMER COLLEGE.

The last session of our Conference appointed several gentlemen to draft a charter for a Conference College to be styled "Homer College," and to procure an incorporation from our State Legislature. We are informed that the charter has been procured, and that, under it, Trustees have been regularly appointed and have entered upon the discharge of their duties. A report of a Committee appointed by the President and Trustees of said College, informs us that the Board has made a selection and purchase of a lot in the town of Homer, on which they have fixed the permanent site of the College buildings, and that they have already procured a large and commodious building capable of accommodating conveniently one hundred and fifty pupils, in which they will start in January next the Preparatory Department of the College. But it appears from said report, that, owing to the entire failure of navigation and the extreme drought of last spring and summer, causing great distress throughout North Louisiana, the Board of

Trustees has not thought it advisable to press the claims of the College upon the citizens for an endowment fund. And having secured the sum of $15,000 in good subscriptions, it instructed its agents, for the present to use no exertions to raise such fund.

The Board contemplates at an early day entering energetically upon the work of the college buildings.

In connection with this college, your committee recommend the following resolutions, to wit:

*Resolved*, That Thomas M. Smyth be appointed a Trustee of Homer College, in place of J. B. Gilmer, resigned.

*Resolved*, That —— —— be, and they are hereby recommended to the President and Board of Trustees of Homer College, to be appointed agents to travel and solicit donations and subscriptions to the Endowment Fund of Homer College.

*Resolved*, That the Conference recommend that said agents be allowed, as compensation for such services, per annum, such sum as to the President and Board of Trustees may seem reasonable.

*Resolved*, That we still look with favor on the efforts of the citizens of Homer and vicinity, for the establishment of Homer College, and that we will extend to it the patronage of this Conference, at the same time recommending the Bishop to appoint an agent for said college.

COLLEGES PROJECEED.

Your Committee recommend the following resolutions, to wit:

*Resolved*, That as a Conference we will extend to any place or section of this State which may raise the sum of $100,000, for the endowment of a college, the same patronage that we have extended to Centenary and Homer Colleges.

*Resolved*, That the said $100,000 Endowment Fund shall be deposited in the State Treasury, upon condition that the State will pay eight per cent. interest per annum upon the said deposit.

*Resolved*, That the Conference, in this, seeks only the extension of education generally, and not any special privilege for the education of the sons of Methodist preachers.

MRS. READ'S SCHOOL AT BATON ROUGE.

Your Committee would heartily recommend this school to our members and friends as a most excellent place for the education of their daughters. We are informed that Mrs. Read has procured a place six-

teen miles from Baton Rouge, to which she takes her school when the yellow fever breaks out at that place, therefore,

*Resolved*, That our confidence is unabated in the capability of Mrs. Read as a teacher of young ladies, and we recommend her school to all our friends as an excellent place where their daughters can obtain a finished education.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN J. DAVIS, Chairman.

## SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Q. 16.—What is the action of the Conference on Sabbath Schools?

A. 1.—The following REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS, are adopted.

The Report of the several Stations and Circuits summed up, presents the following aggregate: 59 Schools, 506 Officers and Teachers, 4,054 Children, 15,109 volumes in the library, $1,286 89 collected for Sabbath School purposes, 821 copies of the Visitor taken.

These figures as campared with last year show an increase of 6 Schools, 119 Officers and Teachers, 513 Children, 1,539 volumes in Library and 101 Visitors taken, and a decrease of $699 17.

This increase, though large, is nevertheless encouraging, and matter of devout felicitation. We are glad to know that each succeeding year exhibits a steady and healthful improvement in this important department of Christian enterprise. We cherish the hope that coming years shall be as the past, and yet more abundant in the outlay of zeal, and in the in-gathering of the little ones into the fold of the Sabbath School.

Your Committee have labored to collect some additional facts in relation to the Sabbath School cause in our branch of Zion, throughout the world, but regret to say that they have not been able to do so.

Mr. Baird of New York, who has devoted great attention to the religious statistics and progress of our country, estimates that there are in the United States some 35,000 sabbath schools, and 2,500,000 pupils attending them. This is a most hopeful exhibit; none save the infinitely wise God can estimate the amount of moral and religious good which these millions of piously instructed children shall accomplish. In less than twenty years the major portion of these children will be heads of families. From their religious training and associations, may we reasonably hope that a large portion of them will be tempe-

rate, industrious, intelligent and moral, if not religious. So large a number of good citizens, trained to revere and practice the lessons of the Bible must be highly conservative of public order, and promotive of all the best hopes of our common country.

The Sabbath School cause has so long and so eloquently spoken for itself, that your Committee feel, as the representatives of this Conference, that it needs no commendation from them; we can but exhort the entire Ministry, itinerant and local, with the entire loyalty of the Conference, to give all diligence to the cultivation of this great field of Christian usefulness. Let us be well assured that our labor in the Lord shall not be in vain, but sowing, we shall reap thirty, sixty, and a hundred fold. The children constitute the hope of the Church and the world; let us see to it that this hope fail not of a glorious fruition.

Your Committee would suggest to the friends of the Sabbath Schools the importance of giving greater incouragement to the children to be more punctual in their attendance and more diligent in their studies, by public examinations and exhibitions, at which suitable rewards should be given in the shape of handsomely bound copies of the Bible or some other appropriate book. Such rewards would be long preserved and cherished as mementos of the Sabbath School and its hallowed associations. Those hallowed memoirs thus kept alive in the heart could not fail to exercise a most healthful influence upon the habits and the history of all after life.

Let our people be encouraged to give with a liberality worthy of the object contemplated. No investment will yield so large a per cent. of good to the Church and the promotion of our common Christianity.

Your Committee would further suggest, that our preachers in nowise relax their efforts to establish juvenile Missionary Societies in our Sabbath School, as a means of cultivating in the rising generation a misionary conscience, and greatly increasing our annual Missionary collection. Let our preachers in their public ministrations and prayers be careful to commend the Sabbath School to the fostering regards of God, and to the pious affections of his people.

Requesting Superintendents of Sabbath Schools to favor the organization of Juvenile Missionary Societies.

*Resolved*, That each preacher having charge, be required to see that these Juvenile Missionary Societies be organized in the Sabbath

Schools within the bounds of his Circuit or Station, and that he report the number and result of such societies at the next Annual Conference.

In relation to the Sabbath School Visitor we offer the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this Conference highly appreciate the S. S. Visitor as a child's paper, and that we pledge ourselves to the extension of its circulation.

2.—The following SABBATH SCHOOL STATISTICS are received from the various Circuits and Stations in the Conference.

| | No. of Schools. | No. Officers and Teach's. | No. of Scholars. | No. Volumes in Library | Amount collected for Schools. | No. Visitors taken. | Juvenile Mission |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT. | | | | | | | |
| Carondelet street,..... | 2 | 48 | 295 | 1460 | $258.98 | 150 | 156,60 |
| Felicity street,..... | 3 | 40 | 384 | 1086 | 246.97 | 150 | |
| Moreau street,..... | 1 | 35 | 280 | 1200 | 320.00 | 150 | |
| 1st German Mission.... | 1 | 13 | 55 | 401 | 29.00 | | |
| 2d " " .... | 2 | 28 | 178 | 250 | 92 10 | | |
| 3d " " .... | 1 | 5 | 50 | 250 | 13.50 | | |
| 4th " " .... | 1 | 10 | 35 | 150 | 29.00 | | |
| Col'd charges in N. O... | | | | | | | |
| New Orleans Circuit,.... | 5 | 50 | 334 | 1122 | 138.34 | | |
| Baton Rouge,..... | 1 | 13 | 40 | 500 | | 20 | |
| Plaquemine & Pt. Coupée | 2 | 7 | 12 | 400 | 25.00 | | |
| Thibodeaux & Napoleon, | 1 | 11 | 50 | 300 | | 60 | |
| Donaldsonville and B. B. Circuit, | | | | | | | |
| OPELOUSAS DISTRICT. | | | | | | | |
| Opelousas and Chicot,... | 3 | 20 | 120 | 600 | 10.00 | | |
| Franklin & Pattersonville | 2 | 15 | 100 | 700 | 50.00 | 50 | |
| New Iberia,..... | 4 | 20 | 90 | 485 | 31.00 | 60 | |
| Alexandria,..... | 1 | 5 | 20 | 150 | | | |
| SHREVEPORT DISTRICT. | | | | | | | |
| Shreveport,..... | 1 | 17 | 57 | 291 | | | |
| Caddo Circuit,..... | 2 | 6 | 40 | 400 | | | |
| Mansfield,..... | | | | | | | |
| Nachitoches Circuit,.... | | | | | | | |
| North Bossier,..... | | | | | | | |
| OUACHITA DISTRICT. | | | | | | | |
| Minden,..... | | | | | | | |
| Homer,..... | 3 | | 100 | 1000 | 8.00 | 35 | |
| Jackson Circuit,..... | 5 | 29 | 130 | 525 | | | |
| Farmersville, ..... | 3 | | 100 | 544 | | | |

| | No. of Schools. | No. Officers and Teach'rs. | No. of Schol'rs. | No. Volumes in Library | Amount collect'd for Schools. | No. Visitors taken. | Juvenile Mission |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OUCHITA DISTRICT—(*Con.*) | | | | | | | |
| Bastrop,..... | 3 | 9 | 75 | | $ | 1 | |
| Columbia,..... | | | | | | | |
| Red River,..... | 3 | 60 | 144 | 200 | 30.00 | 100 | |
| Dugdemonia,..... | 1 | 4 | 26 | | | | |
| Monroe and Trenton,... | | | | | | | |
| LAKE PROVIDENCE DIST. | | | | | | | |
| Lake Providence,..... | 1 | 13 | 41 | 1300 | 10.00 | 45 | |
| Monticello,..... | 2 | 24 | 60 | 1000 | | | |
| Bœuff Prairie,..... | 1 | 4 | 28 | 75 | | | |
| Waterproof & St. Joseph, | 2 | 12 | 50 | 150 | 25.00 | | |
| TRINITY CIRCUIT. | | | | | | | |
| Columbia,..... | 2 | 8 | 60 | 150 | | | |
| | 59 | 506 | 3054 | 15109 | $1286.89 | 821 | 156,60 |

## PERIODICALS.

Q. 17. What is the action of the Conference relative to PERIODICALS?

A. The following RESOLUTIONS were adopted by the COMMITTEE ON PERIODICALS:

*Resolved*, That we will use our earnest endeavors to aid in the support of the New Orleans Christian Advocate, by doing all in our power to increase its circulation, not only among our own people, but amongst our mutual friends, and that we will *punctually* attend to the collection of its accounts.

*Resolved*, That we will continue our efforts to extend the circulation of the "Home Circle" within the bounds of our Conference.

*Resolved*, That we will endeavor to give extension to the Sunday School Visitor, by each Preacher ordering as many copies as he may be able to circulate within the limits of his work; that he will have them sent to the most central point in his work for distribution; and that he will leave a list of subscribers with the Recording Steward of the Circuit for his successor.

*Resolved*, That we will use our best efforts to extend the circulation of the Southern Methodist Quarterly Review.

[The Committee on Minutes re-insert the adtion of the previous Conferenee on THE NEW ORLEANS METHODIST DEPOSITORY.]

1—That we will proceed at once to take the steps necessary to build a house in the City of New Orleans to be called, THE NEW ORLEANS METHODIST DEPOSITORY.

2.—The said Depository, to be held for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, under the control of the Louisiana Conference by a Board of Trustees, to wit: J. C. Keener, J. B. Walker, H. N. McTyeire, L. Parker, Wm. A. Cameron, T. K. Price, B. M. Moss, W. H. Foster, R. L. Robertson: who are hereby authorized to incorporate themselves as "Trustees of the New Orleans Methodist Depository," under the act providing for the organization of certain corporations in this State, approved April 30, 1847, also April 30, 1853; vacancies in said Board to be filled from time to time by the Louisiana Conference.

3.—The said house to be used as a Depository for the Book Agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, for the publishing office of the New Orleans Christian Advocate, and such other purposes as the Conference may determine.

4.—That we invite the Mississippi, Alabama, Ouachita, Arkansas, Texas and East Texas Conferences to cöoperate with the Louisiana Conference in the establishment of said "Depository."

J—That the Conference requests the Rev. Wm. H. Crenshaw to act as an agent for collecting moneys throughout the South and West, for the purpose of purchasing a lot, and building on it the said Depository, and to bring the whole subject before the above named Conferences. In case he should decline the agency, the Trustees are hereby authorized to procure an agent; and in any case to determine the agent's compensation.

The Book Committee of the M. E. Church South, in session, Nashville, 20, 1855.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Conference at its late session in Franklin, took initial measures toward building in New Orleans, a house for the deposit and sale of our publications, and for an office for the publication of the New Orleans Christian Advocate, and have appointed an agent to collect funds for the same, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we approve of this object and recommend its early accomplishment.

The above is a correct copy of a resolution adopted on the day and date above written.

J. B. McFERRIN, *Secretary.*

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## PREACHER'S FUND SOCIETY.

The object of this Society is to pay for the tuition of the Preacher's children. Its funds are loaned out at interest and the annual proceeds thereof are appropriated to the said objects.

By resolution of the Society, the Treasurer was directed to COLLECT the promissory notes belonging to the Society, for the purpose of re-investing the money in a form more secure and yielding a more regular and certain income.

The OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY elected for four years, from January 3d, 1852, are:

Rev. R. J. HARP,.....PRESIDENT.
" L. A. REED,.....SECRETARY.
" J. C. KEENER,.....TREASURER.
Rev. S. J. DAVIES, } DIRECTORS.
" R. RANDLE, }

The following REPORT OF THE TREASURER of the Society was ordered to be printed in the minutes.

J. C. Keener, Treasurer, in account with Preachers Fund Society of the Louisiana Conference,

| | Dr. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec'r 5, 1853, | To Cash on hand..... | $205 00 | |
| " 5, 1854, | Amount of interest on do., loaned to sundry persons..... | 16 40—$ | 221 40 |
| " " | To Am't ballance of note of R. Randle..... | | 12 20 |
| Jan. 17, 1855, | Cash of Trustees of old Presiding Elders, parsonage lot in Claiborne Parish, by Rev. J. Sanders..... | | 45 50 |
| Dec'r 12, 1855, | To am't of interest on $103 47 loaned at 8 per cent. on demand... | | |
| " 17, 1855, | To note of J. Sanders for $60 00, interest on do., from 17th Dec'r, 1844, $52 80..... | | 112 80 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. 7, 1855, | To note of D. O. Shattack for $240 00, with various credits, and interest from December 7th, 1843, on $139 20 | | | 261 52 |
| " 18, 1855, | To note of R. M. Crowson for | | 15 00 | |
| | To interest from Dec. 18th, 1845, | | 12 00 | 27 00 |
| " 12, 1855, | Due bill of Wm. R. Gober from Treasurer for | | 90 00 | |
| | Interest from July 25, 1851 | | 32 15 | 122 15 |
| " 7, 1855, | To note of B. N. Houghton, for | | 860 39 | |
| | Interest (for 11 years) from Dec. 17, 1844 | | 756 80 | 1,617 19 |
| " " " | To amount due of R. Stewart | | 213 12 | |
| | Interest from Jan. 1, 1851 | | 85 23 | 298 35 |
| | | | | $2,726 35 |

| 1855. | Cr. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. 12. | By cash on hand | | | $207 34 |
| | Due bill of R Spencer, on demand | | | 80 00 |
| | Bills receivable on hand, | | | |
| | Note of J. Sanders with interest | $112 80 | | |
| | " " D. O. Shattuck with interest | 261 52 | | |
| | " " R. M. Crowson with interest | 27 00 | | 401 32 |
| | " " B. A. Houghton with interest, $1,617 19 in hands of W. L. Knox, Lake Providence, less draft on account of principal, Dec. 15, 1855, of W. L. Knox, on Estlin & Co., $800 00 | | | 817 19 |
| Dec. 17. | Am't of draft at 20 days sight from Dec. 17, 1855, on Estlin & Co., N. Orleans | | | 800 00 |
| " 12. | R. A. Stewart, amount of note due from him (never in my possession) with interest | | | 298 35 |
| " 17. | Am't of due bill of former Treasurer, W. R. Gober, on hand with interest | | | 122 15 |
| | E. and O. E. | | | $2,726 35 |

## TRACT SOCIETY.

Q. 18.—What is the action of Conference on the Tract cause?

A. 1.—A Conference Tract Society, was formed under the following constitution:

*Constitution of the Tract Society of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.*

Art. I. This Society shall be known as "The Tract Society of the Louisiana Conference."

Art. II. It shall be auxiliary to the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, whose purposes it shall promote, by aiding its funds, and by colportage or otherwise circulating the publications which receive its sanction.

Art. III. Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of One Dollar per annum, or a member for life by the payment of Ten Dollars at any one time. Life-members shall be entitled to receive Tracts, at any one time, to the amount of one-half the sum paid by them.

Art. IV. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve Directors—ministers or laymen—who shall constitute a Board of Managers, any five of whom shall be a quorum.

Art. V. The Board shall meet during the session of the Conference to fix the time and place, and to make other arrangements for the annual meeting of the Society.

Art. VI. At the annual meeting of the Society, the Annual Report of the Secretary shall be submitted, also that of the Treasurer, duly certified; annual subscriptions shall be renewed, and officers elected for the ensuing year.

Art. VII. This Constitution shall not be altered but by a majority of the Society present and voting for the proposed alteration.

2. OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE TRACT SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT.....Rev. R. J. HARP,
VICE PRESIDENT..... " N. A. CRAVENS,
SECRETARY..... " C. J. HALBURG,
TREASURER..... " L. PARKER.

DIRECTORS.

Rev. J. B. WALKER,
" S. J. DAVIES,
" S. J. HAWKINS,
" R. M. CROWSON,
" JOEL SAUNDERS,
" B. F. ALEXANDER.
WM. L. KNOX, *Lake Providence*,
Maj. J. H. BRIGHAM, *Morehouse*,
Dr. ANDERSON, *Waterprorf*,
T. F. JOHNSON, *Franklin*,
W. H. FOSTER, *New Orleaus*,
Dr. JNO. W. CHEVIS, *New Iberia*.

2. The following FORM OF CONSTITUTION was recommended to Auxiliary Societies.

*Constitution of the Tract Society of the Quarterly Conference of——*

Article I. This Society shall be known as the "The Tract Society of the Quarterly Conference of ——."

Art. II. It shall be auxiliary to the Tract Society of the Louisiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, whose purposes it shall promote, by aiding its funds, and by circulating the publications which receive the sanction of the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Art. III. Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of any amount in aid of its funds.

Art. IV. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Directors, who shall constitute a Board of Managers, four of whom shall be a quorum.

Art. V. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at such a time and place as the Board of Managers shall designate. At this meeting the Secretary shall present the Annual Report of the proceedings of the Society, and the Treasurer shall report the condition of the treasury. Abstracts of these reports shall be forwarded to the Tract Society of the Annual Conference, to which this Society is auxiliary.

Art. VI. This Constitution shall not be altered but by a majority of the members of the Society present and voting on the subject, at any annual or special meeting of the Society.

3. The Committee on the Tract cause reported that $410 73 have been collected for the local Tract Societies, of which $276 85 were collected by the N. O. Tract Society. That 1,452 85 pages of tracts have been distributed gratuitously.

4. And the following resolutions, which were adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Conference requests the Bishop, if possible, to appoint a Tract Agent to travel throughout the bounds of the Conference during the ensuing year.

*Resolved*, That the Presiding Elders and the preachers in charge be required to use their influence to secure the formation of Tract Societies in each Quarterly Conference auxiliary to the Conference Tract Society.

## THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, IN LAY SESSION.

*Resolved*, 1. That the Louisiana Annual Conference earnestly desires the co-operation of brethren, members of the M. E. Church, South, within the bounds of the Conference, to advance the several benevolent and financial interests which have heretofore been under the sole care of the Conference.

2. That it hereby pressingly invites each of the Quarterly Meeting Conferences within its bounds to select some one gentleman, a member of the Church, to attend at the place where the next Auuual Conference shall meet, (Waterproof,) to give aid and share in the Committee-action of the Conference upon the cause of Missions—the cause of Education—the Sabbath School cause—the Church Publications—the Support of the Ministry and Temperance cause.

3. That the Conference shall now appoint, from its members, the Chairmen of the several Committees on the aforesaid benevolent interests, who will be expected to prepare for, during the year, a report upon the various interests they represent, *excepting* the Committee on Missions, which shall meet and act with the Board of Managers on the first day of the meeting of the Conference.

4. That upon each afternoon of the days on which the Conference shall meet, the Conference shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, upon some one of the aforesaid benevolent causes; and shall, together with the Committee-men from the Quarterly Meeting Conferences, constitute the Committee on Education—the Committee on Church Publications—the Committee on Sunday Schools—the Committee on Missions—the Committee on Ministerial Support and the Committee on Temperance. The aforesaid Chairman shall preside, and shall report upon rising to the President of the Conference, the action of the Committee of the Whole, in a written Report.

5. That the Preacher in charge of Waterproof be requested to make provision for the entertainment of the Committee-men of the Quarterly Conference during the next Conference Session.

6. That the following be the Chairmen of the Several Committees for the next Conference:

Chairman of the Committee on Missions, Joel Sanders, President of the Missionary Society.

Chairman of the Committee on Sunday Schools, J. B. Walker.

Chairman of Committee on Education, S. J. Davies.

Chairman of Committee on Church Publications, Linus Parker.

Chairman of Committee on Ministerial Support, C. J. Hallburg.

Chairman of Committee on Temperance, N. A. Cravens.

Chairman of Committee on Tracts, R. J. Harp, President of the Tract Society.

Chairman of Committee on Bible Cause, J. A. Ivey.

*Resolved*, That the rules regulating the Committee of the Whole in Lay Session shall differ from the ordinary rules of a Committee of the Whole in the following:

1. It shall elect its own Secretary.

2. It may appoint Sub-Committees upon the subject-matter of the Committee.

3. It may limit discussion.

4. It may, upon motion, by changing the Chairman, go into the consideration of another subject without rising.

5. It may put the previous question.

[And in this also; that the Conference does not resume its session immediately upon the rising of the Committee, but meets at its usual hour, and then the Chairman of the Committee makes report.—*Com. Pub.*]

The following Lay-Committee-men were present and took their seats in the Committee of the Whole in Lay Session:

Thos. F. Johnson, from Franklin and Pattersonville.

Dr. James T. Fountaine, from New Iberia, Cir.

James H, Brigham, from Bastrop Circuit.

John Vaughan, from Red River Circuit.

R. P. Bruton, from Farmerville Circuit.

J. M. Thomason, from Homer Circuit.

Jas. Bowman, from Waterproof and St. Joseph.

Wm. L. Knox, from Lake Providence.

## MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

1. Annual Sermon—*Resolved*, That the Rev. H. N. McTyeire be appointed to preach the Annual Conference Sermon.

2. Auditing Committee—*Resolved*, That the Publishing Committee of the New Orleans Christian Advocate be the Standing Committee to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of the Missionary Society.

3. Bible Cause—*Resolved*, That the funds raised for the Bible shall be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on the Bible cause, who shall pay the same to the South Western Bible Society, taking a check for each Circuit or Station, so that to the amount of its contribution it may at any time draw Bibles for gratuitous distribution.

4. Centenary College—*Resolved*, That we as much as ever cherish our interest in Centenary College, believing the present cloud which the occurrence of epidemic has thrown over it will be temporary, we confidently hope and expect for it a brilliant future, and will not for a moment relinquish our interest in or forsake it in the hour of discouragement and affliction.

Rev. E. M. Walker—*Resolved*, That we deeply regret the painful cause which has made it necessary for Brother E. M. Walker to transfer to the Louisville Conference; and that we sincerely sympathise with him in his affliction.

*Resolved*, That should Brother Walker see his way open at any future time to return to Louisiana, we will give him a cheerful welcome.

Homer College Agents—*Resolved*, That the Presiding Elders of the Shreveport, Ouachita and Lake Providence Districts be requested to act as agents for Homer College.

Monuments for Deceased Ministers—1. The Committee on Monuments reported that the remains of the following ministers who have labored in Louisiana are resting without tombstones or scarcely a board to mark the spot where they are buried:

Richmond Nolly, in Catahoula.
—— Brewer, at Cotile.
—— Jones, beyond the Calcasieu.
Wm. Hines, at Donaldsonville.
—— Tinder, at the mouth of Bartholomew, in Ouachita Parish.
H. B. Page and two children, burnt on the "Yellow Busha" opposite Bayou Goula.
Wm. Tostrick, in New Orleans.
Jesse A. Guice, in Tensas Parish.
—— Bremer, in New Orleans.
W. H. Turnley, in Catahoula.

Byron B. Benton, at Trinity, or on the Bank of Bayou Bœuff.
R. L. Childers, in Carrollton, Jefferson Parish.
Thos. H. Foster, in Baton Rouge.

*Resolved*, That monuments of white marble of uniform size and value, be raised to these brethern, with an inscription stating that it is raised by the Louisiana Conference, the place and date of birth and conversion, the date of admission into the travelling connection; the dates and places of successive appointments; the date and place of death, and the last text preached from.

2 *Resolved*, That the value of the stone be ——— dollars; and the shape of the stone a solid, two feet square and four feet high, and placed upon a granite base.

3. *Resolved*, That each preacher, in the bounds of whose work any traveling preacher may have died, shall ascertain the exact place where his remains lie, and forward a statement of the fact to the Chairman of the Committee at New Orleans.

4. J. C. Keener, J. B. Walker, H. N. McTyeire were appointed Standing Committee on Monuments.

Bishop Kavanaugh.—*Resolved*, That this Conference desires to express their high appreciation of the administrative ability, ministerial efficiency, and christian urbanity of the Presiding Bishop, and will hail his return with unmingled gratification.

Thanks and Prayer to God.—*Resolved*, That we find cause for joy and gratitude to God for the harmonious session we have enjoyed and the gracious influences that have attended our religious exercises during the Conference, and that we will look hereafter to our Conference session with expecting to be re-baptised with power from on high, that we may be better able to go to our several fields of labor in the fulness of the Gospel of Christ.

2. That we are grateful to God for an answer to our prayers for the increase of laborers; but as the field is large and more laborers needed, we will set apart the first Friday in May next, for fasting and prayer, that the work of God may be revived, and that more laborers may still be sent to this part of his vineyard.

Bastrop.—*Resolved*, That the cordial manner in which we have been received, both the members of Conference and the lay-committee brethren, and the very kind hospitality with which we have been entertained by the citizens of Bastrop and its vicinity, are entitled to our acknowledgements and gratitude, and have awakened in us feelings of strong friendship; and we will pray that the richest blessings of Heaven may rest upon them.

Missionary Cotton.—*Resolved*, That Maj. E. K. Ross, be requested to receive the cotton subscribed at the Missionary Anniversary, and ship it to the house of Wm. R. Stuart & Co., New Orleans.

## THE NEXT CONFERENCE.

Q. 19. Where will our NEXT CONFERENCE be held?

A.—At Waterproof.

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## ACT INCORPORATING THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

The Committee appointed at the last Conference presented the copy of an Act by the Legislature of the State "To incorporate the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South."

### AN ACT.

To incorporate the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That John C. Keener, H. N. McTyeire, J. Sanders, R. Randle, J. B. Walker, S. J. Davies, L. Parker, Philo M. Goodwyn, Lewis A. Reed, and their associates and successors, such as the Louisiana Annual Conference may from time to time think proper to appoint, be, and they are hereby created a body politic and corporate, under the name and style of the "Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and by which name said Corporation shall have succession and be capable of sueing and being sued, entering into contracts, and receiving and holding property for educational purposes and such charitable uses as may from time to time be specified by the said Conference at its Annual Sessions, by donation or purchase.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That the domicil of said Corporation shall be located in New Orleans and the affairs thereof shall be managed by nine Trustees to be appointed by the Louisiana Annual Conference, one of whom shall be elected the President, and four Trustees shall form a quorum, and shall have power to appoint all other officers necessary for conducting its affairs, and make and adopt such rules, by-laws and regulations as they may deem proper for the management of said Corporation, provided that the same be in conformity with the laws and regulations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and not repugnant to the laws of the State.

(Signed) JOHN M. SANDIDGE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(Signed) ROBERT C. WICKLIFFE,
President of the Senate.

Approved March 15th, 1853.

(Signed) P. O. HEBERT,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

I hereby certify the within to be a true and correct copy of the original Act deposited in my office.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the State, at Baton Rouge, this twentieth day of March, A. D. 1855, and of the Independence of the United States of America the seventy-ninth.

ANDREW S. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

Upon motion, the following members of the Conference were duly appointed the Board of Trustees of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Church South, viz: J. C. Keener, H. N. McTyeire, J. Sanders, R. Randle, J. B. Walker, J. J. Davies, L. Parker, P. M. Goodwyn, L. A. Reed.

And J. C. Keener was elected President of the Board of Trustees.

Q. 20. What amount has been raised for CHURCH BUILDING, &c., during the year?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A.—First German Mission | $ 538 | 66 |
| Thibodaux and Napoleon | 9 | 00 |
| N. Bossier | 825 | 00 |
| Bastrop Circuit and Mission | 2,777 | 00 |
| Red River Circuit | 100 | 00 |
| | | $4,249 66 |

Q. 21. What amount has been raised for PARSONAGE BUILDING, &c.?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A.—Fourth German Mission | $ 50 | 00 |
| Plaquemine and Pointe Coupée | 3,000 | 00 |
| Franklin and Patterson | 1,000 | 00 |
| | | $4,50 66 |

## COLLECTIONS FOR 1856.

1. The Collection for Home and Foreign Missions.
2. The Widows' and Orphans' per cent.
3. The collections in aid of the Bible cause.
4. The collection in aid of the Tract cause.

## COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION AND COURSE OF STUDY FOR 1856.

IN ENGLISH LITERATURE.—A. E. Goodwin and J. A. Ivy.

CLASS OF FIRST YEAR.—English Grammar (Butler's) Elocution and Essay.

Second Year.—Grammar and Elocution continued, and General History, (Whelpley's compend.)

Third Year.—Rhetoric (Whately's) and Sermon.

Fourth Year.—Logic (Whately's) and Sermon.

In Biblical Literature.—R. J. Harp and N. A. Cravens.

Class of First Year.—Bible History and Biography, (Bible.)

Second Year.—Ancient Geography, (Mitchell.)

Third Year.—Chronology, (Horne's Introduction.)

Fourth Year.—Manners and customs of Jews, (Horne's Introduction.)

In Doctrinal and Controversal Theology.—S. J. Davies and Linus Parker.

Class of First Year.—First Volume of Wesley's Sermons, Fletchers Appeal, and Watson's Conversations.

Second Year.—Second Volume Wesley's Sermons, Watson's Apology, Sacrements, (Fourth Part of Watson's Institutes.)

Third Year.—Christian Perfection, (Fletcher) first and second parts Watson's Institutes.

Fourth Year.—Third part of Watson's Institutes, Edgar's Variations of Romanism, Power on Universalism.

On Ecclesiastical History and Church Government.—H. N. McTyeire and J. B. Walker.

Class of First Year.—Discipline, Clark's Manual.

Second Year.—Baker on Discipline, Watson's Life of Wesley.

Third Year.—Church History, (Mosheim.)

Fourth Year.—Powell on Succession, Lord Kings Primitive Church, Archbishop Whatley on Episcopacy.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Examination and Classes to be examined, be required to be at the seat of Conference at 9 o'clock on the Monday morning preceding the meeting of Conference.

*Resolved*, That in case of the absence of any member of the Committee of Examination, the remaining members shall be responsible to the Conference for the examination of the several classes.

*To Visit Centenary College.*

Rev. R. J. HARP, Rev. S. B. SURATT.

*To Visit Mansfield Female College.*

Revs. R. RANDLE, R. A. NEW, T. M. PENICK.

Q. 22.—Where are the Preachers stationed this year?

A.—As follows:

## APPOINTMENTS.

### NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT—J. C. KEENER, P. E.

Carondelet street.....LINUS PARKER.
Felicity street.....J. B. WALKER.
Moreau street.....J. A. IVY.
Wesley, Soule and Winans Chapel.....H. N. McTYEIRE.
First German Mission.....JOHN PAULY.
Second German Mission.....To be supplied.
Fourth German Mission.....*G. Busman.*
New Orleans Circuit.....*J. A. Miller.*
Baton Rouge.....*Samuel B. Suratt.*
Plaquemine and Pointe Coupée.....H. AVERY.
Thibodaux.....SAMUEL HAWS.
Lafourche and Bayou Black Circuit and Mission, LEWIS REED and Jesse Fulton.
H. N. McTYEIRE, Editor of New Orleans Christian Advocate.

### OPELOUSAS DISTRICT, P. M. GOODWYN, P. E.

Franklin and Pattersonville.....S. J. DAVIES.
New Iberia.....J. H. WATERS.
Au Large Prairie Colored Mission.....James T. Fontaine.
Opelousas Circuit.....*B. F. Alexander.*
St. Landry Colored Mission.....To be supplied.
Chicot Circuit.....*Frederick White* and J. F. Scurlock.
Alexandria.....A. E. GOODWYN.
North Rapides and Colored Mission.....URIAH WHATLEY.
Columbia Circuit.....*S. J. Graves.*
Harrisonburg.....R. J. Parvin.

### SHREVEPORT DISTRICT, R. RANDLE, P. E.

Shreveport.....*Robert A. New.*
Caddo Circuit and Colored Mission...T. M. PENICK and Allen Harper.
Mansfield Circuit.....T. J. LACY.
Natchitoches Circuit.....C. W. Coursey and Thomas McLenden.
Red River Circuit.....J. L. WRIGHT.

North Bossier Circuit.....Jeptha Landrum.
H. C. Thweat, President of Mansfield Female College and Member of Mansfield Quarterly Conference.

OUACHITA DISTRICT, Joel Sanders, P. E.

Minden Circuit.....R. R. R. Alexander.
Homer.....D. S. Watkins, F. T. Rawson.
Monroe and Trenton.....Reynolds Trippett.
Ouachita Circuit.....C. W. Hodge.
Monroe Colored Mission.....B. C. Stegall.
Bastrop Circuit.....John Pipes and Jeptha Hughes, Sup.
Bastrop Colored Mission.....Jack S. Hewit.
Jackson Circuit.....*B. J. Hamilton.*
Sparta Circuit.....W. A. Smythe.
Dugdemona Circuit.....D. P. Cullen.

LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT, N. A. Cravens, P. E.

Lake Providence.....D. M. K. Collins.
Carroll Colored Mission.....To be supplied.
Monticello.....*S. J. Hawkins.*
Swan Lake Circuit.....W. J. McGaughey.
Bœuf River Circuit.....W. A. Manly.
Bœuf Prairie Circuit.....*Uriah Riley.*
Trinity Circuit.....Moses Davis.
Waterproof and St. Joseph Circuit, R. J. Harp and P. H. Deffienwerth, Sup.
Tensas Colored Mission.....E. W. Griswold and one to be supplied.
Richmond Circuit and Madison Colored Mission.....C. J. Halberg.

SUPERANNUATED PREACHERS.

W. Stevenson, David Kinnear and Thomas Samford.

LOCATED AT THEIR OWN REQUEST.

H. A. Sugg, W. E. Doty and Z. Thomson.

E. M. Walker, Supernumerary, transferred to Louisville Conference and appointed to Logan Circuit.